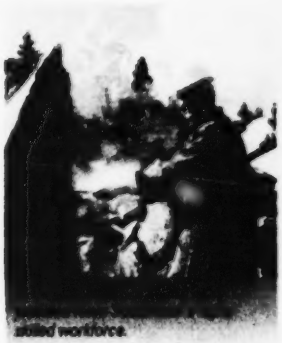
Take Advantage of Mineral Exploration and Development in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia, Canada, is situated on the Eastern Seaboard of North America. With a long history of mining coal, metallic minerals and industrial minerals, Nova Scotia offers many advantages to the mineral industry. For example, Nova Scotia has:

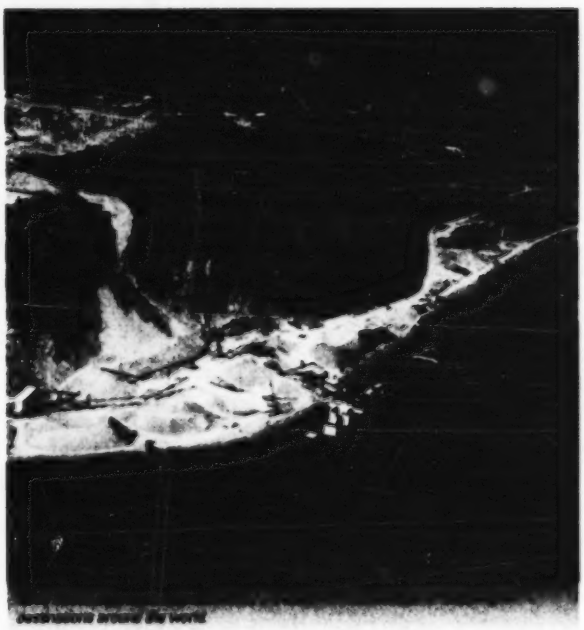
- some of the lowest costs for exploration in Canada
- an attractive land tenure system, including map-based claim staking
- a 'One Window' approach to permits and regulations
- an excellent transportation infrastructure linked to several deep-water, ice-free seaports strategically located for North American and European markets

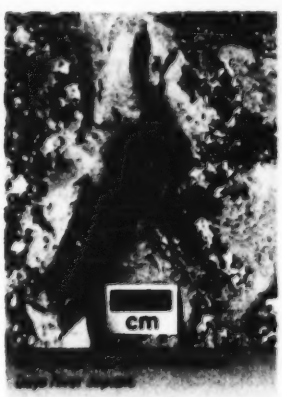
hands of an artist



skilled workforce

- a skilled workforce with experience in mineral development and exploration
- a dynamic business climate
- comprehensive geological, geochemical and geophysical databases
- a highly competitive regime of mineral royalties and taxes
- an active mineral industry that has proven the economic success of Nova Scotia mineral deposits.





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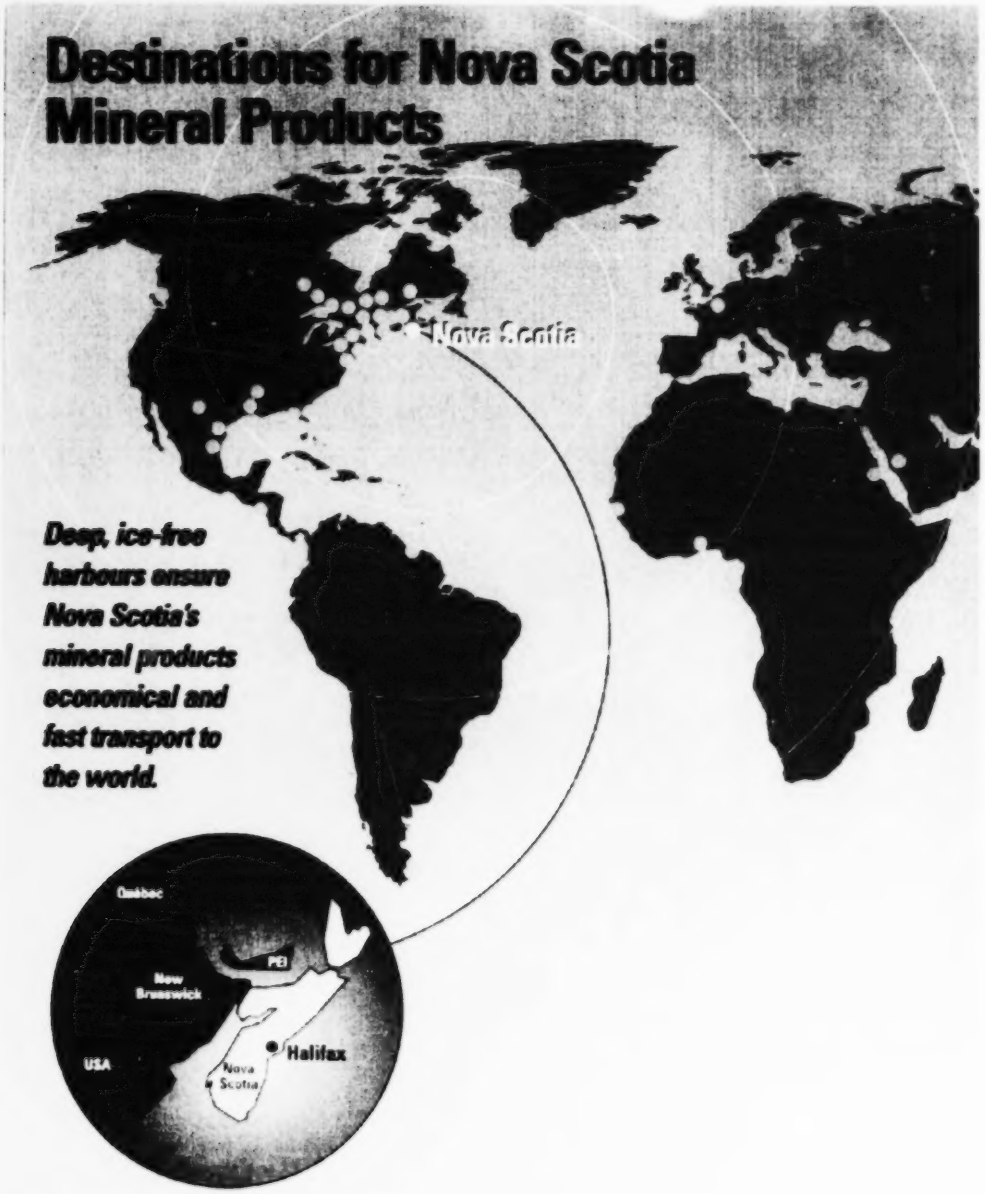
Destinations for Nova Scotia Mineral Products



Deep, ice-free harbours ensure Nova Scotia's mineral products economical and fast transport to the world.

Highlights of the Nova Scotia Mineral Industry

Nova Scotia's mining history has included the production of coal, gold, copper, lead, zinc, tin, iron, antimony, manganese, and a great number of industrial mineral commodities. In terms of current production, Nova Scotia can claim the following:

- Greatest number of mines per unit area, and second greatest value of mineral production per square kilometre of all Canadian provinces (data from Mining Association of Canada).
- Most productive gypsum-mining region in the world, responsible for 80% of Canadian and 7% of world gypsum production (data from Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources).
- Accounts for 12% of total value of Canadian coal production (data from Mining Association of Canada).
- Major producer and exporter of salt, aggregate, limestone and dolomite.
- Producer of barite, diatomite, clays and peat.

Several gold deposits are currently in the feasibility or pre-production stages of development. In addition to these development projects, active exploration in Nova Scotia has focused on the following targets:

- **Cretaceous kaolin and silica sand deposits in central Nova Scotia. Recent drilling has revealed new laterally continuous deposits.**
- Industrial mineral commodities including gypsum, limestone and dolomite, surficial and bedrock aggregate, peat, and building stone.
- Sediment-hosted disseminated gold deposits in the Meguma Group of southern Nova Scotia, host to 64 former gold districts. Gold has traditionally been produced from narrow, high-grade veins (averaging 7-15 g/t), but recent exploration has revealed low-grade gold with high tonnage potential.
- Paleoplacer gold deposits in Witwatersrand-type environments with very little history of exploration.
- High-grade auriferous quartz veins hosted by sheared Precambrian gneiss and diorite in the central Cape Breton Highlands.
- **Copper-gold (±nickel±cobalt) deposits associated with iron carbonate veins along the trace of the Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault Zone, a regional transform fault system. This environment includes the past-producing Londonderry deposits.**
- **Copper-nickel-cobalt occurrences associated with mafic to ultramafic bodies in northern Cape Breton Island. Recent airborne vertical gradiometer surveys have revealed large anomalies, some associated with known ultramafic intrusives, Cu-Ni stream sediment anomalies, and Cu-Ni-Co occurrences.**
- Volcanogenic massive sulphide deposits in the Stirling belt of eastern Cape Breton Island, host to the past-producing Stirling Cu-Pb-Zn-Ag-Au VMS deposit.
- Stratabound massive sulphide deposits with associated gold (<0.30 oz/t) near Chéticamp, Cape Breton Island. Deposits are hosted by shallow-dipping sericite schist bounded by chlorite schist.
- Surface coal deposits with open-pit potential in northern mainland Nova Scotia.
- Coalbed methane deposits associated with the coal basins of northern Nova Scotia.

Contact Names

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources has a wide variety of services and professional staff to help you. Call us for information or assistance.

Mineral Policy
Pat Phelan,
Executive Director 424-5346
Scott Swinden, *Director* 424-8135

Exploration Promotion
Mike MacDonald 424-2523

Mineral Deposits (General)
A. K. (Chat) Chatterjee 424-2508

Skarn Deposits
Garth DeMont 424-8138

Gold Deposits
Paul Smith 424-2526
Dan Kontak 424-2616
Ron Mills 424-2437

Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide Deposits
George O'Reilly 424-2517

Sandstone-hosted Cu-Zn-Co-Ag-Au Deposits
Bob Ryan 424-8148
Bob Boehner 424-2435

Carbonate-hosted Base Metal Deposits
Dan Kontak 424-2516
Bob Boehner 424-2435

Granite-hosted Sn-polymetallic Deposits
Dan Kontak 424-2516
Mike MacDonald 424-2523

Geochemistry
Peter Rogers 424-2509
Paul Lombard 424-2438

Bedrock Mapping
Bob Boehner 424-2435
Bob Ryan 424-8148

Surficial Mapping
Ralph Stea 424-2528
Phil Finck 424-2521

Industrial Minerals
Garth Prime 424-8146

Coal Resources
John Calder 424-2778
Rob Naylor 424-8119

Mining Technical Services, 'One Window' Approach for Approvals
John Campbell 424-8153

Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles (Licences, Leases. Permits and Regulations)
Rick Ratcliffe 424-8155

Exploration Monitoring and Reporting, Mineral Statistics
752-8429
(Fax 902-755-3158)

Stellarton Core Library
John McMullin 752-4842
(Fax 902-755-7185)

Library Services
Valerie Brisco 424-8633

Mineral Resource Education. Prospecting Courses
Howard Donohoe 424-7199

Land Use: Access. Planning
David Hopper 424-8151

Minerals Update Newsletter
Doug MacDonald 424-2510

Digital Databases/Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
JanetteVavra 424-8139

Petroleum Development Agency
Carey Ryan,
Chief Operating Officer 424-3203

Note
- All numbers in area code 902
- Fax number for all staff is (902) 424-7735 unless specified otherwise
- E-mail addresses available upon request
- Visit our homepage @ http://www.gov.ns. ca/natr